Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01 /025 W

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R 201310Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1534 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY BEIRUT AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

CINCEUR

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES) EG

SUBJECT: CODEL PERCY

REF: CAIRO 0362

- 1. CODEL PERCY VISIT TO CAIRO JAN 14-16, WAS USEFUL AND HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE FROM BOTH USG AND GOE POINTS OF VIEW, PROVIDING NUMBER OF EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXCHANGES OF VIEWS AND POSITIONS ON MATTERS OF HIGH-LEVEL MUTUAL CONCERNS. EGYPTIANS MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO ARRANGE THEIR SCHEDULES TO ACCOMMODATE MEETINGS WITH SENATOR PERCY AND WERE EVIDENTLY PLEASED WITH CHANCE TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITH WELL-INFORMED AND WELL-PLACED AMERICAN OF NATIONAL STATURE. PRESS COVERAGE OF THE VISIT, REPORTED SEPARATELY, WAS BOTH FAIRLY EXTENSIVE AND VERY SYMPATHETIC.
- 2. SENATOR HAD MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, PRIME MINISTER HEGAZY, AND FONMIN FAHMY (ALL REPORTEDLY SEPARATELY), AS WELL AS SPEAKER MAR'I, MINISTER OF PETROLEUM HILLAL, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION OSMAN, AND MANAGING EDITOR OF AL AHRAM GAMMAL. (MEMCONS BEING POUCHED.) MEETING WITH MINISTER OF ECON COOPERATION WAS CANCELLED AT LAST MINUTE DUE TO A CABINET MEETING. SOCIAL EVENTS INCLUDING A RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE, HOSTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY MRS. EILTS AND CHARGE AND MRS. MAESTRONE IN ABSENCE

OF AMBASSADOR, AND DINNER AT HOME OF GAMMAL ATTENDED BY NUMBER OF PROMINENT PERSONALITIES.

3. EGYPTIANS WERE EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN PRESENTATIONS MADE BY SENATOR PERCY, PARTICULARLY HIS ABILITY TO SPEAK KNOWLEDGEABLY ON CONTEXT IN WHICH SECRETARY HAD MADE HIS COMMENTS TO BUSINESS WEEK. SENATOR SAID REPEATEDLY THAT EFFORTS TO ATTACH SIGNIFICANCE TO A HYPOTHETICAL REPLY TO A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION WAS NEITHER REALISTIC NOR MEANINGFUL. EACH OF MEETINGS TOOK PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF WARMTH AND CANDOR ON BOTH SIDES. THIS ATTITUDE WAS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

4. IN SUM, PRESENCE OF CODEL PERCY WAS TIMELY AND CONSTRUCTIVE FROM EMBASSY AND USG VIEW. SENATOR PERCY REPORTED HIMSELF WELL-SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT, AND BETTER ABLE TO UNDERSTAND SITUATION IN EGYPT AND MIDDLE EAST. MAESTRONE

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